

Message Text

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 01 CARACA 04203 102316Z

21

ACTION CU-04

INFO OCT-01 ARA-10 ISO-00 EB-05 AF-05 /025 W

----- 114246

R 102051Z MAY 74

FM AMEMBASSY CARACAS

TO AMEMBASSY KINSHASA

INFO SECSTATE WASHDC 3771

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE CARACAS 4203

EO 11652: NA

TAGS: SCUL

SUBJECT: ALI-FOREMAN FIGHT PREPARATIONS

REF: A. KINSHASA 4038; B. CARACAS 2595

SUBJECT: ALI-FOREMAN FIGHT PREPARATIONS

1. I AM PLEASED THAT AT LEAST EMBASSY KINSHASA HAS HAD SOME ADVANCE INDICATION OF TROUBLES TO COME CONCERNING THE NEXT WORLD CHAMPIONSHIP HEAVY WEIGHT FIGHT. AS AN INDICATION OF WHAT TROUBLES HAVE COME, AT LEAST TO CARACAS, I HAVE PLEASURE IN REPEATING CARACAS 2595.

2. AS A RESULT OF FAIRLY BITTER EXPERIENCE, MAY I URGE ON EMBASSY KINSHASA AND USIS THERE TO STAY IN A NEUTRAL CORNER. ABOVE ALL, NEITHER EMBASSY NOR USIS SHOULD BE INVOLUNTARILY DRAGGED INTO THE FIGHT AS I WAS BY TWO PREVARICATORS: (1) MR. HENRY SCHWARTZ, WHO CLAIMED HE HAD A "BINDING AGREEMENT" THAT NO INCOME TAX WOULD BE LEVIED, AND (2) THE LOCAL VENEZUELAN EMPRESARIO, ROMERO, WHO LIED TO ME WHEN HE SAID THAT THE TAX WOULD NOT BE LEVIED ON THE FIGHTERS. THEREFORE, MY FIRST RECOMMENDATION TO MY BELEAGUERED FRIENDS IN KINSHASA IS THAT THEY MAKE SURE THAT THERE IS A VALID UNDERSTANDING BETWEEN THE CONGOLESE COLLECTORS AND THE AMERICAN FIGHTERS AND THEIR SO-CALLED MANAGERS ON THE TAX ISSUE.

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 02 CARACA 04203 102316Z

3. MY SECOND RECOMMENDATION IS THAT BOTH FIGHTERS AND THEIR

MANAGERS COME WITH VISAS OF EQUIVALENT VALIDITY. FOR EXAMPLE, SCHWARTZ SKIPPED OUT OF VENEZUELA THE DAY AFTER THE FIGHT LEAVING BEHIND A TV CREW OF 20 AND A MILLION DOLLAR TV VAN, TO SAY NOTHING OF THE TWO FIGHTERS, ONE OF WHOM, FOREMAN, LANGUISHED ABOUT THE HOTEL POOL FOR A WEEK UNTIL HE COULD GET PERMISSION TO DEPART AFTER HIS INCOME TAX WAS PAID.

4. MY THIRD RECOMMENDATION IS THAT THERE BE AN AGREEMENT REACHED BEFOREHAND ON THE QUESTION OF THE REFEREE. THIS ISSUE ALONE (VIDE PARAGRAPH 5 REFTEL B) ALMOST CAUSED THE FOREMAN-NORTON FIGHT TO BE CANCELLED AT THE LAST MINUTE.

5. I EARNESTLY REPEAT RECOMMENDATION IN EIGHTH PARAGRAPH REFTEL B THAT BOTH CONTESTANTS MUTUALLY KNOCK EACH OTHER OUT. HAVING SEEN MY GENTLE FRIEND FOREMAN HIT, I SHOULD SAY THAT IF MUHAMMED GETS IN THE WAY OF SUCH A FIST, HE WILL BE RAPIDLY TRANSLATED TO HIS MUSLIM MASTERS, EITHER ALLAH OR SHAITAN. MCCLINTOCK

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: ATHLETIC PRESENTATIONS, INCOME TAXES, CONTRACTS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 10 MAY 1974
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: GarlanWA
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1974CARACA04203
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D740115-0964
From: CARACAS
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1974/newtext/t19740559/aaaabzyt.tel
Line Count: 79
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ACTION CU
Original Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: A. KINSHASA 4038; B. CARACAS 2595
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: GarlanWA
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 04 SEP 2002
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <04 SEP 2002 by boyleja>; APPROVED <11 FEB 2003 by GarlanWA>
Review Markings:

Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
30 JUN 2005

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: ALI-FOREMAN FIGHT PREPARATIONS
TAGS: SCUL, VE, CG, (FOREMAN, GEORGE), (ALI, MOHAMMED)
To: KINSHASA
Type: TE
Markings: Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005